

# ♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

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## Annual Election, Town Meeting Attracts Scant Attention

(Lamoine) - The election crew at the town office had a pretty good idea that turnout would be really low for the annual municipal election. There were just two offices to fill, and no opposition to the two incumbents holding the Selectman and Assessor posts. The crew was right. Just 93-voters of the 1,466 registered voters turned out, slightly over six percent. And there were no surprises with the outcome, either. Selectman Cynthia Donaldson pulled in 85 of the votes, there were two others written in, and six ballots were blank. Assessor Terry Towne was re-elected as well, gathering 76 votes, with 7 various people written in, and 10 blank votes. When you compare the turnout to the November 2, 2010 Governor's election, where 901 voters turned out, the pressure on the election staff was significantly lower. In fact, it took less than half an hour to count the votes, and the crew was home well before 9PM. In November, the vote counting wrapped up just after 4AM!

The annual open town meeting also saw lower attendance as there was a lack of controversial warrant items. Town Clerk Jennifer Kovacs reports 81-voters checked in to decide the 31 items on the annual warrant. Moderator Harvey Kelley completed the business before the town in

what may be record time—approximately 1 hour and 50-minutes. The only items that generated much discussion were an ordinance change to allow the Selectmen



**No Lines, No Waiting**  
*Ballot Clerks Carol Kerty (left) and Kathy DeFusco wait to check in voters for the municipal election on March 15, 2011.*

## Winter Pounds Town, Tests Contractor

(Lamoine) - Richard McMullen celebrated his 25th birthday in March doing pretty much what he'd been doing on most days this winter; spreading salt and sand and scraping off the town and state roads that he began plowing this season. By most accounts, he's done a very good job and has been extremely responsive to problem areas identified by town officials. This was the first year that

McMullen's company, Lawn Enforcement, has plowed public roads, and he called it a learning experience. His crew has two more years left on the contract.

Quite often this winter, the snow fell a foot at a time, and quite swiftly. Many residents saw snow banks looming 10-feet tall from where their driveway plow contractors pushed the deep snow. Rural carriers with the US Postal Service found themselves unable to reach mailboxes in some cases and could not leave mail until the box owners shoveled them out. Intersections became difficult to navigate because folks could not see around the snow banks. The plow crew was very good about using a bucket loader to push back the snow at the intersections to create better visibility.

One feature of the snow contract with the town is an escalation clause that

provides for extra payment if there are more than 45-plowing events and/or the price of diesel fuel rises above \$3.50/



*A snowplow from Lawn Enforcement scrapes the town hall parking lot. Finding a place for the snow became a challenge.*

gallon. McMullen said he was very close to the 45-event mark, and the price of diesel went too high around the first of the year.

By early March, the snow had stopped for the most part, and rains melted areas almost as quickly as the snow had built up. Still, it will be many weeks before the snow banks are completely melted.

McMullen said one of the lessons he learned was the effectiveness of using straight salt instead of a salt/sand mix. He said he can salt the entire town with one pass of the trucks which breaks up the snow when the temperature is warm enough. Sand dilutes the effectiveness of the salt, but does provide better traction at times. McMullen sanded corners and hills, but used pretty much straight salt for the last half of the plow season.

## Mike Garrett Citizen of the Year



(Lamoine) - When Mike Garrett announced that he was leaving the Planning Board, the choice for the Board of Selectmen for Citizen of the Year for 2010 was made simple. Garrett has been a member of the Board nearly since his arrival in town in 2000. For the past several years he served as the board's secretary, supplying timely and accurate minutes of the Planning Board's actions. Garrett also served on the now dormant Long Range Planning Committee and has been an active participant at the town meetings for years. He also was a key influence in the establishment of the land conservation fund by the Conservation Commission, and helped attract a key contribution to that fund.

Mike was awarded the 2010 Citizen of the Year honor at the March town meeting. The award drew standing applause from the gathered voters as Selectman chair Jo Cooper presented Garrett with a proclamation and a plaque.

A retired educator, Garrett moved to Lamoine from Concord, NH and lives on Great Ledge Road with his wife Betty.



## Gott Appeals Second Pit Expansion Denial

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Board of Appeals will hold a hearing on April 27, 2011 in regard to the denial of a gravel permit for Doug Gott & Sons, Inc. of Southwest Harbor. Gott proposed to the Planning Board that a portion of a lot purchased a couple of years ago be added to an existing permitted pit. The Planning Board formally denied the request in January. A similar request was denied in 2010 and that denial was upheld by the Board of Appeals.

The latest Planning Board denial written by chair John Holt said that the desire for Gott to have "additional storage area does not outweigh the loss of natural landscape available to neighbors and residents of the town".

The appeal filed by Gott's attorney Michael Ross argues the merits of the permit's denial. Ross states the Planning Board made no findings of fact on landscape preservation and argues that a tie vote should be decided in favor of the applicant.

The big argument may arise over whether such a use is in conformance with

the town's Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Board's decision says "in light of the scope of sand and gravel excavation already permitted in this section of Town, and considering other matters of noise, gravel trucks on the roads, and potential for water pollution, there is sufficient reason to justify a conclusion that the proposed project is not in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan."

The appeal says that the Comprehensive Plan is not an ordinance, and that other cases in Maine decided by the Supreme Judicial Court specifically bars use of the Comprehensive Plan as a review. The appellants say the Site Plan Review and Gravel Extraction Ordinance are what guides the decision making process by the Planning Board. It further notes that the Comprehensive Plan proposed allowing sand and gravel extraction in the Rural and Agricultural Zone.

The Appeals Board will receive legal assistance from town attorney Tony Beardsley on several issues raised by the appellants prior to the hearing.

## Census Shows Steady Growth

(Lamoine) - In the ten years between 2000 and 2010, Lamoine's population grew 7.2%, faster than the state and county average, but slower than the rate of growth the previous decade. Official figures released by the US Census Bureau put Lamoine's official population on April 1, 2010 at 1,602. The 2000 census in Lamoine was 1,495, and the 1990 census was 1,311.

The growth in Lamoine in the 1990s was 14%, so the new growth rate is roughly half what it was at the end of the last century.

Hancock County's growth rate was 5.1%. The state's overall growth was 4.2%.

More detailed demographics will be coming from the Census Bureau in the coming months. The census showed that there were 994 homes in Lamoine, but only 712 were occupied on April 1, 2010. Many of the unoccupied homes are summer residences and camps owned by people in other communities.

## Town Office Now Accepting Credit & Debit Cards (for a fee)



(Lamoine) - Nearly every day customers at the town office ask to use a credit or debit card to pay for a transaction. The staff has politely informed the customer that only checks or cash are accepted. That changed effective March 24, 2011 as the town has agreed to utilize the services of Maine PayPort which will allow acceptance of the four major credit/debit cards for any transaction.

There's a cost, though. Under the arrangement, customers will be charged an additional 2.5% on the transaction to cover the merchant fees on the card, with a minimum \$1.00 charge. The Maine Legislature authorized municipalities passing along the cost to customers several years ago so that all the taxpayers would not have to pick up those costs. If, for example, you put a \$100 transaction on your card, you would be charged \$102.50. Customers will be orally informed of that additional charge prior to initiating the credit/debit card transaction. Signs have been posted at the service counter giving the same information.

The town office staff underwent training on March 23, 2011 and remarked that the system is quite easy to use. Instead of the traditional swipe card machine and PIN pad buttons, the on-duty clerk will swipe a card through a machine attached to the town office computer. The computer is securely hooked to a web site that takes care of all the card processing and will generate a receipt for the entire amount. No signatures are required at this time.

## Illegal Deck Remains

(Lamoine) - Town Attorney Tony Beardsley continues to work with a California man whose deck was ordered removed by both the Code Enforcement Officer and the Board of Appeals in 2010. The Appeals Board set an October 15th deadline for removal of the structure built less than the 100-foot setback from the high water mark on Skillings River. To date, the deck remains in place.

The Selectmen authorized pursuit of a consent agreement extending the deadline to June 15, 2011 in return for payment of less than \$300-in legal fees. The property owner has thus far refused to enter into such an agreement.

## Ordinance Changes Approved

(Lamoine) - Voters at the annual open town meeting approved of three articles to amend current ordinances in Lamoine. The first made a series of changes to the Building & Land Use Ordinance that changes permitting authority to the Code Enforcement Officer for home occupations and better defines what fire protection is needed for new subdivisions. The second increased the sign limit size in the Site Plan Review Ordinance to 16 square feet (the same as the building ordinance).

The final change drew the most discussion. It changes a number of ordinances with set fees for various permits to require the Board of Selectmen to set those fees. The measure passed by 5-votes. Those opposed said they would rather that voters have a say in the fee structure.

Selectmen have asked the Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer to assist them with the fee structure.

## Planning Board Requests Action on Pit Permit Delay

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Planning Board has asked the Board of Selectmen to pursue action against the owner of a pair of gravel pits that operated after the permit ran out in October 2010. John W. Goodwin Jr., through an engineering firm, submitted applications to renew the permits, in December, 2010 after being sent a notice of violation by the Code Enforcement Officer.

The Planning Board has reviewed the applications several times and found that information was missing. The final pieces of information were received in March, 2011 and a hearing and possible action in regard to the applications are scheduled for the April 5, 2011 Planning Board meeting, starting at 6:30 PM.

Planning Board chair John Holt met with Selectmen in early March to request that enforcement action be pursued against Goodwin because of the more than 5-months that have elapsed since the permits expired. Selectmen authorized town attorney Tony Beardsley to pursue some sort of agreement with Goodwin in that regard.

The town routinely sends reminders to pit operators prior to the expiration of permits. Goodwin was no exception, having been notified in the summer of 2010 that the October expiration date was looming. The Southwest Harbor company operates pits off Lamoine Beach Road and off Partridge Cove Road and has been permitted to do so for several decades. At press time, no settlement had yet been proposed.

## Zoning Change Request by Boat Builder

(Lamoine) - North Lamoine business owner Stewart Workman (SW Boatworks) has written to both the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen asking to consider a zoning change on property that he owns between Douglas Highway and Buttermilk Road. The land is currently zoned Rural and Agricultural (RAZ) from Douglas Highway, back 800-feet, and then Residential (RZ) for the remainder of the distance to Buttermilk Road. Workman says he was initially interested in building a commercial shop which would not be allowed in the RZ, but could be permitted in the RAZ with Planning Board approval.

He has since revised his plan. The matter is being discussed at the April meetings of both boards.

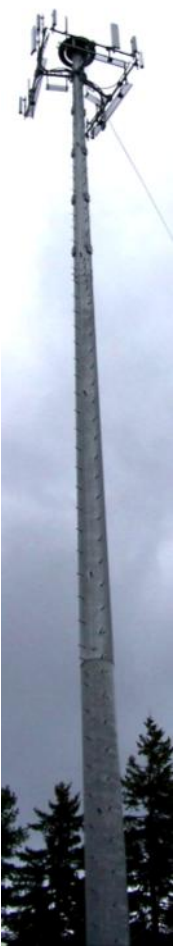
Selectmen have been exploring ways to make the town more attractive to business, and have specifically identified the area between Buttermilk and Douglas Hwy. as a logical area to encourage development.

Any zoning change would require town meeting approval after notice to affected land owners and public hearing. Potentially such a vote could coincide with the validation vote for the RSU 24 budget held the second week in June.

## Cell Reception Better, But Not for Whole Town

(Lamoine) - When Verizon Wireless turned on the power to the new tower on the former landfill property, users on the southeast side of town noticed an immediate improvement in reception. However, there are still parts of town where service is relatively non-existent, blocked by a hill between the old dump and Walker Road. The Marlboro area in particular reports little to no service from the new tower, but reception in parts of Trenton has improved greatly.

Some Seal Point Road residents looking for wireless internet service report activation of a new tower in Sullivan has provided them with the Premium Choice carrier. Several subdivision areas without cable TV wires have found their high speed internet options severely limited because of the lack of wireless signals. Meanwhile, a second tower proposed off Mill Road has yet to materialize before the Planning Board.



## Mud Creek Road Slated for Summer Paving

(Lamoine) - The Maine Department of Transportation will re-pave the Mud Creek Road from Route 1 to Route 204 during the summer of 2011. Area DOT supervisor Joe Lacerda says before the new pavement is put down, they will install new culverts and shape shoulders and ditches on parts of the road that have problems during heavy rain storms. On numerous occasions the fire department has been called to install barricades when part of the road floods. One storm in the fall of 2010 resulted in an automobile getting stuck in the water.

The Mud Creek Road is one of three state highways in Lamoine that have major maintenance issues. Route 184 has two sections that are posted in the spring because of extremely rough conditions—a section from Route 1 in Ellsworth to the Route 204 intersection (Douglas Highway), and from the end of



*Mud Creek Road between Bob-O-Link Lane and Chickadee Lane has flooded numerous times during heavy rain events*

the rebuilt section to Lamoine Beach. Motorists say the spring of 2011 has been one of the worst ever. Route 204 from Route 184 to Seal Point Road is also in poor shape. The MDOT has no immediate plans to improve either road.

## Asa's Lane Paving Planned this Spring

(Lamoine) - A paving crew will arrive on Asa's Lane at some point before July 1, 2011, to put down a fresh layer of pavement. Lamoine and several other communities utilize paving consultant Roger Picard to group a bid for pavement each year, realizing some economy of scale. The town meeting in 2010 raised \$93,000 for the paving operation, which should be in the ballpark for the actual cost. Mr. Picard measured the paving area in February.

Asa's Lane was last paved in the summer of 1998. Road Commissioner Michael Jordan will inspect the area in the coming weeks and map out any drainage work that needs to be completed prior to laying down the new pavement. The road flooded in one area last fall after a cross culvert got clogged up by leaves. The previous year saw some ditch and shoulder erosion during one of the several major rain events to hit town.

Voters at the annual town meeting approved of paving parts of Shore and Mill Roads during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

## Public Sand Pile Proposed

(Lamoine) - Selectmen were receptive to an idea pitched by plow contractor Richard McMullen to set aside some sand and salt for residents to use on their driveways when extreme ice forms. A program will likely be developed in time for next winter.

## College Scholarships Available

(Lamoine) - College students from Lamoine have a couple of relatively new scholarship options available. The Hodgkins Memorial Scholarship fund has more than \$20,000 available for students next year. The fund is administered through the Maine Community Foundation and Selectmen choose which applicants will be funded and at what level. More than \$15,000 was awarded for this current school year. Applications for this scholarship are available on Lamoine's website or the Maine Community Foundation's site.

The Jina Haslam Memorial

(Lamoine) - The resignation of Mike Garrett from Lamoine's Planning Board has resulted in elevation of Don Bamman from an alternate member to a full voting member. The Board of Selectmen appointed Perry Fowler to replace Bamman as the alternate member.

Garrett's role as secretary on the board has not been fully decided. Until a board member agrees to be the regular secretary, members agreed to split the duties of keeping minutes and communicating with other town entities.

Scholarship has been established at the University of Maine. A check for \$110,000 was presented to the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture last December. Information is available from U-Maine in Orono.

Students with at least a 3.5 GPA and in their 3rd year of the Veterinary Sciences program will be eligible for the scholarship. First priority is for Lamoine residents, then for graduates from Ellsworth and MDI High Schools.

The scholarship is in memory of Jina Haslam who was killed in a car accident in 2005.



## Town Seeks Recycling Options



Equipment processes cardboard into a baler at Coastal Recycling in Hancock, one of two options for Lamoine's recycling destination.

(Lamoine) - The Selectmen are searching to find the best deal for processing and marketing the recycling generated at the transfer station. Pine Tree Waste has been awarded the hauling and container rental contract for the next five years to recycling newspaper, office paper, plastics, tin, cardboard and glass. Presently, office paper and cardboard are picked up on a regular route by Pine Tree and the town receives no revenue from those two materials. The newsprint, glass, plastic and tin are hauled to Coastal Recycling on Route 182 in Hancock for processing and marketing through the Maine Resource

Ellsworth Transfer Station is utilized because it would take less time to unload at that facility. Ellsworth, however, does not process glass. The Selectmen await an offer from the city which recently agreed to process recycling from the Acadia Disposal District towns on Mt. Desert Island. City officials looked over Lamoine's operation in March.

Coastal Recycling says it would very much like to keep Lamoine as a customer. Once the Ellsworth offer comes in, town staff will attempt to make an analysis on what the best deal is for the taxpayers.

## Fuel Buyers Group News by Kathie Gaianguet

(Lamoine) - A growing group of Lamoine citizens is arranging lower prices on heating oil and propane for home. For three years the group has arranged with two local companies to offer group members choices in lower fuel costs. Last year's savings were 10-cents a gallon and more below individual prices.

The group is now talking with fuel companies to arrange lower group prices for 2011/12. It will also offer workshops on inexpensive ways to conserve energy in our homes.

Any household in Lamoine can join. There are no obligations to the fuel buyers group and no expenses. Members continue to order their fuel individually from participating companies, and receiving the group rate.

For more information on the Lamoine Fuel Buyers' Group, call Kathie Gaianguet at 667-1282 or e-mail to: [gaiangu@maine.edu](mailto:gaiangu@maine.edu). The fuel buyers group will meet next in May.

## 2010 Audit Complete

(Lamoine) - The town continues to be in relatively good financial shape as of the end of the fiscal year in June, 2010. An audit of the town books by James Wadman, CPA, shows an undesignated fund balance (surplus) of \$318,792.10. That is roughly \$8,000 higher than the surplus balance at the end of the 2009 fiscal year. A healthy property tax overlay offset a drop off in excise tax and investment revenues, and expenses were under budget for the year, accounting for the bulk of the fund balance increase.

The audit shows the balance of the fixed assets for the town decreasing sharply, though. That is explained by the statutory transfer of the Lamoine Consolidated School property to RSU 24. Some depreciation of roads is also figured into the fixed asset value prepared by the auditors.

The annual letter to the Selectmen from Wadman showed no material weaknesses in the financial accounting system utilized by the town. The audit is available in the town report and on line.

## Trash Transport Offers Competitive

(Lamoine) - Five companies submitted bids to haul trash from the Lamoine Transfer Station to the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company incinerator in Orrington. Selectmen, after a very detailed analysis, have opted to stick with Pine Tree Waste, the company that has provided containers and transport for the past 15 years or so. Bids were extremely close, and some interesting offers came in.

Most difficult to analyze was an offer from a company in Bangor that would do away with the individual 10-yard containers and instead put an electrically powered compactor on site. The potential cost to install a cement pad and power hookup was judged to be too much of an unknown factor, even though there were potential operational savings.

Three of the companies also submitted bids to provide recycling containers and haul materials either to Ellsworth's Transfer Station or to Coastal Recycling in Hancock. Again, Pine Tree Waste was judged to have the most competitive offer to the town.

## Recycling Rate Drops (on paper)

(Lamoine) - A change in the way cardboard collection is calculated led to a significant recycling rate drop in Lamoine. The 2010 recycling report as submitted, calculates Lamoine's rate as 18.7%. The 2009 calculation was more than 32%.

The biggest change was a new, and probably more accurate way of estimating the amount of cardboard recycled, which saw the tonnage drop from 158.66 tons to 15.6 tons. Because the cardboard is not weighed at pickup, there is no way to accurately calculate how much is recycled. All other areas of recycling dropped off, but not to a significant degree.

## Foreclosed Property Sold Back

(Lamoine) - Subdivision developer Wayne Wright paid all the back taxes on a lot that he had sold but was deemed unbuildable several years ago, and Selectmen signed a quit claim deed to the previous owner at Wright's request. The lot, while existing on paper, was reconfigured out of Wright's subdivision when vernal pools were found to impact that portion of the development.

In the fall of 2011 the Planning Board granted Wright a 1-year extension to install the infrastructure at the Partridge Cove Estates subdivision. No other lots in the development have been sold as of press time. Another party has apparently inquired about buying the entire approved subdivision.

**The Lamoine Quarterly  
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**The Lamoine Board of Selectmen  
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## Town Hall Burn Permits Look Different

(Lamoine) - The town office should never run out of burn permits again, unless it runs out of paper. Permits are now being generated on the town's computer system. Previously, hand written permits from the town office staff were completed in duplicate with the carbon copy given to the permittee.

Forest Ranger Rick Henion, who covers Lamoine, said a municipality can generate its own burn permit as long as the language is substantially the same as the

state generated forms.

Town office staff now inputs key information into a database program, and the permit prints out with the proper language and restrictions. There are several advantages to the new system. The most obvious is that the permit is easily read, where the hand written copy was sometimes difficult. The database also allows the town office staff to quickly locate whether a permit has been issued in case a fire is reported in a particular area.

## Annual Fishing Derby Draws Crowd



*Ali Bierman holds up her prize winning pickerel at the Family Fun Day in February. (photo by Bill Fennelly)*

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's Parks Commission and the Frenchman Bay Riders snowmobile club held their 3rd annual Family Fun Day and fishing derby on February 19, 2011. While the winter's heavy snow precluded much ice skating on Blunt's Pond, a fair number of young ice fishermen put live bait on the tip up hooks and dropped their lines into the pond in search of the biggest fish.

Yellow perch and pickerel were the only species landed—no trout were stocked in the shallow pond this fall. The Parks Commission prepared and sold concessions at the snowmobile club A-Frame, and turned in a pretty good profit after expenses for food this year. Special thanks go to Bill Fennelly who put together the fishing derby as usual and took a day off from the transfer station to help make sure things ran smoothly.

## Flat Top 5K Kicks Off Racing Season

(Lamoine) - Despite bitter cold temperatures and a northwest wind gusting to 35 miles an hour, 183 racers turned out for the 6th annual Flat Top 5 K road race on March 26, 2011. Some even ran the event in shorts, though torsos were well insulated.

Bar Harbor's Judson Cake won the race for the 3rd time, finishing in 15:36 (a little off his record setting pace last year). Caleb Lander of Brewer finished 2nd and Tim Tunney of Ellsworth 3rd. In the women's division, Elizabeth Brunton of Birch Harbor was once again the top racer, finishing in a time of 19:03. Kristine Guaraldo of South Portland was 2nd and Sue Plissey of Stockholm (Maine) finished 3rd.

The race is run in the memory of former Lamoine Harbor Master Bill Pinkham who was an accomplished road racer until his death following a race in 2005. His daughter Connie Wallace and granddaughter Ivy Wallace both competed.

Lamoine's Parks Commission worked with race co-directors Robin Emery and Tom Kirby to organize the events, with the winners in each age division receiving a miniature pink lobster

buoy as a trophy. The race is one of the first run in Maine each year and draws a relatively large crowd from all across the State of Maine. Many had kind things to say about the race and the town.



## Fire Calls Drop Off for 1st Quarter

(Lamoine) - After an insanely busy December, the Lamoine Fire Department got a big breather for the first three months of 2011. Only five calls came in, three were for motor vehicle accidents and two for electrical fires.

All three accidents could be attributed to road conditions. One involved a car that rolled over, partially trapping a Marlboro Beach Road resident who suffered minor injuries. Another was for a Partridge Cove Road resident whose sedan slid into a ditch about a half mile from his home. The final accident on Jordan River Road involved a student headed to MDI High School who hit black ice and flipped his vehicle over an embankment. It was his first day driving the car to school.

A Shore Road resident called to report the smell of an electrical fire. Her husband turned off the circuit breaker panel prior to firefighters arriving and consulted an electrician.

The other electrical fire had an interesting explanation with the responsible party standing guard over the scene. A Partridge Cove Road resident called 9-1-1 to report a burning electrical smell and the house filling with smoke that appeared to be coming from under a bed. A responding fire officer had dispatch advise her to turn off the circuit breaker, which stopped the smoke. An investigation traced the problem to an electrical strip outlet that had melted when liquid got inside—liquid that was traced to the family cat which yowled at firefighters as they were looking for the cause.

## Fire Meetings Change Nights

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department is now meeting on Wednesday nights, starting at approximately 7PM at the fire station. Members found that many had conflicts with other activities on Tuesday evenings, and more could make the Wednesday sessions.

At the annual meeting, members re-elected George "Skip" Smith as fire chief, Joe Reynolds and Stu Marckoon as assistant chiefs, and Mike Jordan, Jerry Jordan and Ed Farnsworth as captains.

## Fire Dept., Transfer Station Compliant

(Lamoine) - After a courtesy inspection by the Maine Department of Labor in September 2010, work began at both the Fire Station and the Transfer Station to bring the facilities into compliance with training and maintenance requirements. All the identified areas have been dealt with, though the training is an ongoing activity that keeps evolving.

Physical improvements at the fire house included cleaning a storage loft,

building a railing around the hose drying tower, installing new outlets in the truck bays, and installing light guards. The transfer station had the area in front of the electrical panel cleared.

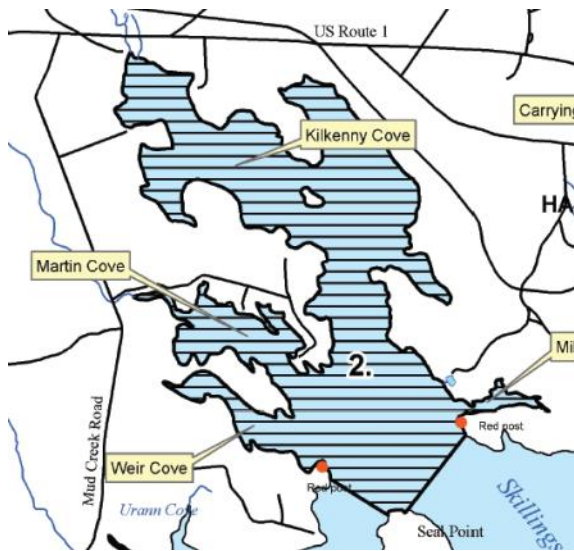
Fire extinguisher training, ladder inspections, annual testing for air pack health and readiness, implementation of required policies and hazardous materials awareness training have taken place and are now documented as required.



## Pollution Closure Concerns Clammers

(Lamoine) - Prime clam flats along the Skillings River from Seal Point north have been closed by pollution, and the source of that contamination has not yet been positively identified. High levels of fecal coliform and/or E-coli have shown up in the water samples taken by the Department of Marine Resources which led to the areas closure to Shellfishing in early January.

The Board of Selectmen and Conservation Commission have discussed trying to track down the source of the pollution—it's either human or animal waste. There are several farms near the streams that run into Martin's Cove and Kilkenney Cove in Hancock which may be carrying animal waste materials to the flats. There are no known malfunctioning septic systems in that area, but that was another possibility that was discussed. Even increased beaver activity upstream and feeding into Mud Creek could be a possibility. Whatever the source, it has



closed off flats to clam digging in a large area (see map above). The Regional Shellfishing Board has written to the Department of Marine Resources to ask that depuration digging be barred from the area to preserve the resource for local diggers until such time as the pollution source is identified and fixed.

## Conservation Commission News *by Carol Korty*

(Lamoine)-Free tests for nitrates in your water! On **April 13<sup>th</sup>, from 6 -8 pm**, in the School's gym, LCC will present a progress report on GET WET! (Groundwater Education Through Water Evaluation & Testing) which has been up and running for six years now. Students from our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades will demonstrate how they conducted tests on tap water samples brought from home for nitrates, chloride, pH, iron, hardness, and conductivity. And after a power point report by John Peckenham of the George Mitchell Center at UMaine, students will test water samples brought by attendees for nitrates, while all enjoy refreshments and a period for informal questions, answers, and conversation. Hand outs on where to send water samples for a full range of tests will be available. [Bring your water sample in a clean glass jar or bottle after running a cold water tap for 10 minutes from a faucet from which any

filters or softeners have been removed.] Questions? Contact LCC chairman, Bob Pulver, at 664-2433.

The Conservation Commission honored James Norris with the 2010-2011 Conservation Award for his outstanding work in helping harvesters in Lamoine, Trenton, Hancock, Sullivan, Franklin, Sorrento, and Ellsworth establish the Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfish Conservation District. His influence contributed to the passage of parallel ordinances in the seven towns to increase and protect the valuable natural resource of soft shell clams. Equally impressive is his support of on-going conservation efforts by the harvesters to re-seed, to nurture new growth, and to clean up of debris from our shores. The award was given at Town Meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Conservation Commission reluctantly acknowledged the resignation of Amy Morley but is pleased to welcome Annie Crisafulli as one of the five members and Lawrence Libby as a new Alternate.

*The Lamoine Conservation Commission presents the annual Conservation Award to Jim Norris at the 2011 Annual Town Meeting*



## Town Installs Filter, Testing Relaxed

(Lamoine) - The State DEP will reimburse the town 90% of the cost for a new water filter system installed at a Lamoine Beach Road residence following analysis of water tests over several years. The home tested high for manganese, which can stain clothing and fixtures and in high doses can have some mild health issues. The DEP has relaxed some of the testing

requirements for the town on several wells installed around the former landfill, and on four residential wells downstream from the closed dump. Those changes are expected to save several hundred dollars annually. Officials with the DEP have also tested another home in the vicinity of the landfill to determine whether that home should be added to the annual testing list.

## Marlboro Cemetery Corp. to Re-form

(Lamoine) - The town's third largest cemetery used to have a board of directors that made sure maintenance was performed, lots were sold, and things ran well. Over the years, the original founders moved on, and responsibility for maintenance has passed from generation to generation to the point that no real organization was left.

The issue came to light when the town received an inquiry from a descendant of the Mosely family which has a small plot off Seal Point Road. That plot may become part of the area under the umbrella of any re-formed organization.

The town holds some funds, other funds are unclaimed at the State Treasurer's Office. Selectman Gary McFarland plans to organize a meeting to re-form the Marlboro Cemetery Corporation. Persons interested should contact McFarland (460-0678)—a meeting date will be announced in the

## Lamoine Community Arts

*By Carol Korty*

(Lamoine) - Lamoine Community Arts spent the winter months reading plays to find scripts for the fall production, and for monthly gatherings in each others' homes just for the fun of it. We went on the road February 19<sup>th</sup> to Hammond Hall in Winter Harbor with a readers' theater presentation of Baba Yaga and the Black Sunflower, a play for family and youth audiences by Carol Korty. The performance was part of the Schoodic Arts for All Series: Out of the Hat.

Coming up in late May; a Readers' Theater performance of Shore Acres—a play set in Lamoine about Lamoine—a big hit that toured coast to coast in 1893. Author James A. Herne, a 19<sup>th</sup> century actor and playwright, wrote it after spending a summer vacationing here. It deals with subjects still relevant today; development, taking shore land out of farming for summer rusticators, women's rights, and tensions between family members with differing agendas. Exact dates and times will be posted on the sign board outside the Grange. For more information, call Carol Korty 667-4441 or e-mail [carol@carolkorty.com](mailto:carol@carolkorty.com)

On Saturday, June 11, 2011, Lamoine Community Arts will hold a "Spin In/Fiber In" day in the Riverside Room at the Ellsworth Public Library from 10am to 3pm. People are invited to participate in sewing, spinning, weaving, swapping tips, pot luck lunch and camaraderie. There will be a Show & Tell table, Show and Sell, Fiber Swap and freebies. Hats will be collected for Cancer Free patients. For more information, contact Lynn Tscheiller at 667-0552 or e-mail [lynnlynntsch@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnlynntsch@yahoo.com).



## Winter Sports Teams Excel—Again

(Lamoine) - Winning has become old hat to Lamoine cheerleaders as they captured their 11th straight state title at the Wal-Mart championship in Bangor on March 12, 2011. The squad started winning trophies in 2000 and this year was coached by Kim Tupper, who was one of the team members on the first cheerleading team to win a state title at the tournament held at the Bangor Auditorium. The team finished 3rd at the RSU 24 competition, behind Ellsworth and Hancock. The Ellsworth squad competes in a different state division and won it's class at the Wal-Mart tourney as well.



*Lamoine's Cheering Team  
Front (l-r) Hadley Bierman, Erin White, Jackie Goebel  
Back (l-r) Asst. Coach Kyle Barker, Torri Bray, Karla Butler, Geni Goebel, Nicole Brown, Coach Kim Tupper*



*Lamoine's Girl's Basketball team celebrates the RSU 24 small school championship*

Not to be outdone, the Lamoine girl's basketball team captured the RSU 24 small school title on Valentine's Day this year. The team beat a talented team from Hancock 33-28, capping off a season that saw Lamoine beaten just once. Team members for Lamoine included Elizabeth Dalton, Kayla Perry, Mackenzie Cowles, Maya Parlee, Samantha Mason, Jordin Sanchez, Tessa Ditton, Alexandra Fitch, Emily Rose, Madison Brown, Emily Lawley and Ivy Wallace. The team was coached by Stu Branch and assisted by Patty Reece.

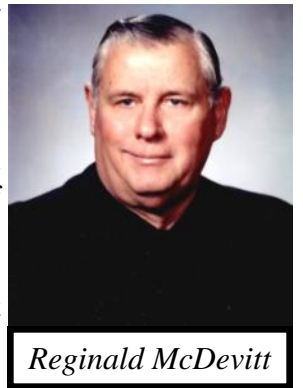


*The 2010/11 Boys Basketball Squad  
Back (l-r) Rich Zerrien, Robert Cooper, Remington Berzinis, Spencer Young, Dylan Kelley, Coach Stu Branch. Front (l-r) Hunter Strauch, Matt Curtis, Caleb Payson, Josh Sargent. Not pictured—Rylan Brann, Trevor Fronczak and Asst. Coach Dean Merchant*

The boys basketball squad, also coached by Stu Branch, made the RSU 24 playoffs as well, but came up short in the semi-final game, losing to Mountain View School of Sullivan 52 to 48. Mountain View went on to win the championship game, defeating a very good team from Hancock. The boy's team finished the basketball season with a record of 8-5. This marked the first season on the brand new floor at the school, finishing the Jina's Gym project.

## Vital Statistics

(Lamoine) - Lamoine lost its' Citizen of the Year for 2010 and the Boston Post Cane holder during the last quarter. **Reggie McDevitt** died as the annual town meeting was taking place on March 16, 2011. The year before, his efforts at establishing the Veterans' Memorial earned him the Citizen of the Year honor. McDevitt was 87. The Boston Post cane had been held by Janina (Jennie)



*Reginald McDevitt*



*Janina (Jennie) Neleski*

Neleski since April of 2005 until her passing at age 102 on March 19, 2011. Her son Bill returned the cane to the town hall, reporting he intends to reclaim it himself

someday. Next in line to receive the cane presented to the oldest resident in Lamoine is Merrill Boynton.

The town also lost **Daniel Gommel** (71), husband of former school board member Anne Gommel on January 30, 2011. **Ronald Becker** (72) of Buttermilk Road died on February 15, 2011, and **Wilda Higgins** (88) passed away on February 22, 2011. **Agnes Marie Liberty** (76) died on March 11, 2011. Her son in law is fire chief George "Skip" Smith.

Congratulations to **Robert Harriman** and **Eveline Allende** who were married at the town office on March 11, 2011 with lots of family and friends in attendance. It's the only wedding reported this past quarter.

Though we can no longer publish names, we can report there was just one birth recorded in Lamoine this quarter—a girl. The previous quarter saw 4 baby boys and one girl arrive.

*Happy 60th Walt & Marion McFarland shown below accepting a certificate from the Board of Selectmen (left) including son Gary (behind Walt) and daughter Jean with husband Roland Donovan to their right.*



## Gardening Workshop Set

(Lamoine) - Gardening and landscaping with native plants preserves natural areas around homes and businesses. Julie Beckford and her husband Pete have grown certified organic perennials on their farm in Clifton for the past 22 years. She will present a session on native plants and biodiversity on Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 7PM at the Lamoine Town Hall. The Conservation Commission is sponsoring the event. Mrs. Beckford studied natural sciences in college and has continued her education by taking botany courses through the New England Wildflower Society. She has taken many field trips across the State of Maine to learn about plants and plant communities. The program will be recorded and replayed often on Lamoine Cable TV Channel 7.



April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2-Town Office Open 8-12
3	4	5-6:30 PM Planning Board	6-7PM Assessors 7PM Fire Dept	7-7PM Selectmen	8	9
10	11	12	13-7PM Conservation Cmsn@ School 7PM Fire Dept	14	15	16
17	18-Office closed, Patriot's Day	19-State Shutdown Day 7PM Parks Cmsn	20-7PM Shellfish Conservation 7PM Fire Dept	21-7PM Selectmen	22	23
24	25	26-10AM MDI League of Towns	27-7PM Appeals Board PM Fire Dept	28	29	30-Town Office Open 8-12

May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3-7PM Planning Board	4-7PM Assessors 7PM Fire Dept.	5-7PM Selectmen	6	7-Town Office Open 8-12
8-Mother's Day	9	10	11-7PM Conservation Cmsn. 7PM Fire Dept.	12	13	14
15	16	17-7PM Parks Commission	18-7PM Fire Dept.	19-7PM Selectmen (Closed @ Lunch)	20	21
22	23	24	25-7PM Fire Dept.	26	27	28-Town Office Open 8-12
29	30-Office Closed, Memorial Day	31				

June 2011

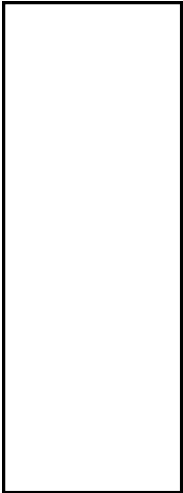
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1-7PM Assessors 7PM Fire Dept	2-7PM Selectmen	3	4-Town Office Open 8-12
5	6	7-7PM Planning Board	8-7PM Conservation Cmsn. 7PM Fire Dept	9	10	11
12	13	14	15-7PM Assessors 7PM Fire Dept	16-7PM Selectmen	17	18
19-Father's Day	20	21-7PM Parks Commission	22-7PM Fire Dept.	23	24	25-Town Office Open 8-12
26	27	28	29-7PM Fire Dept.	30-7PM Selectmen (tentative) Fiscal Year Ends		

The Lamoine Quarterly  
April 2011

Inside this issue:

- Town Meeting Draw Few  
Garrett Citizen of Year  
Credit Cards Accepted  
Population 1,602 & counting  
Zoning Change Explored  
Trash Bid Awarded  
Fire Calls Quiet  
Clam Flats Closed  
Notable Citizens Pass  
Good Sports Winter
- 1  
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7

And Much, Much More!



Town of Lamoine  
606 Douglas Highway  
Lamoine, ME 04605